

nursing department in connection with the California University Summer School, but it was found that the time was too short in which to make satisfactory plans for the coming summer, as the department opens in June, so the whole scheme is to be held over until another year. The association will organize a lecture course for the benefit of its members, and the committee in charge will in the meantime stimulate interest in the subject of higher education in every possible way.

The central preliminary school idea seems to be growing, and we believe eventually we shall see a department of nursing in connection with all of the institutions for higher education, so that before a pupil enters a hospital training-school she will have been prepared, as a medical student is prepared, for the more intelligent understanding of the practical and manual side of nursing, and that the hospitals will be relieved of much of the theoretical instruction that they are now giving. The preliminary courses now established in connection with training-schools are important steps towards the college or central school plan, and we believe it will be developed in the near future. The small hospitals are quite as important as the large ones, and the nurses in the smaller schools must have equal opportunity for a complete nursing education.

The nurses of North Carolina and California are moving in the right direction.

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### PROGRESS OF STATE REGISTRATION

THE California nurses have found it necessary to make some very radical changes in their bill since it was first drafted. In the first bill a board was asked for to be appointed by the Governor on very much the same lines as the Maryland bill. Then it was found that, owing to some cause for criticism in the administration of the commissions of medicine and pharmacy, the establishment of a new commission for nurses would meet with opposition. California has a Board of Regents, and it was decided to change that portion of the bill and substitute conditions similar to those of the New York statute, placing the registration of nurses under the Regents of the University of California, the examiners to be nurses selected by the Regents from nominations made by the State nurses' association.

A small party of nurses have introduced an opposition bill, asking, as we understand it, for the appointment of the special nursing commission upon the lines of the first bill drafted, which the majority have

thought it wise to change. Only for this break in the ranks the prospect of the successful passage of a registration bill in California is good.

Remembering New York's successful issue under exactly those conditions, we predict a glorious victory for the advocates of the Regents' bill on the Pacific coast.

A full report of the District of Columbia Nurses' Association is given in the Official Department. It seems to be the general feeling among the leaders that a successful issue may not be looked for this year.

Illinois is ready for another trial. The State nurses' association has been actively at work all the winter, and the members are working hard in the interest of a new bill. They have the support of splendid men and women outside of the profession.

Michigan has a splendid bill to be presented this session. It will be discussed and finally amended at the State meeting to be held at Grand Rapids on March 1. Miss Isabel McIsaac will be the guest of honor and speak on "State Registration."

Louisiana is active and hopeful, gaining strength quietly for another effort to pass a bill in the future.

The Massachusetts hearing was on February 17. The largest committee-room in the State-House was needed to hold the delegation of nurses and their friends. Representative Walker, of Brookline, appeared for the bill, and Representative Walker, of Waltham, against it. Dr. Alfred Worcester was conspicuous by his absence. The opposition came entirely from those interested in schools for nurses of the Waltham type. The nurses refused to accept any standard which recognized less than two full years of training in a hospital, and insisted that they must have a board of nurse examiners. They have made many less vital concessions, but are prepared for defeat this year. During the campaign they have made many warm supporters among the legislators and physicians, and will not be in the least discouraged if the bill has to be withdrawn again.

Among those who spoke for the bill were President Mary M. Riddle, of the State Nurses' Association; Dr. Emily Fifield, Dr. George Howard, of the Massachusetts General Hospital; ex-President Jones, of the Senate; Dr. H. Lincoln Chase, of Brookline; Dr. James Putnam, of the nurses' registry at the Medical Library; Dr. Henry C. Baldwin;

Miss M. E. P. Davis, chairman of the Legislative Committee of the association; Dr. Mary E. Jones; Master George S. Ladd, of the State Grange; Miss Fisk, trustee of the Malden Hospital; a representative of the State Board of Registration in Medicine, and ex-Representative Mellen, of Worcester.

The burden of opposition was borne by Dr. Hugh Cabot, said to represent Dr. Alfred Worcester, and others were Dr. James W. Riley; John N. Merriam, chairman of the trustees of the Westboro Insane Hospital and head of the Framingham Nurses' School (Waltham plan); Dr. Hatch, of Framingham; Dr. Cook, of Natick; Attorney Farr for the male nurses, and Representative Staples. Among those who have been the staunch supporters of the nurses are Dr. G. H. M. Rowe, of the City Hospital; Drs. Cowles and Tuttle, of the McLean Asylum; Dr. Mann, of the Homœopathic Hospital, and others.

No State has reported a bill passed up to the time of our going to press.

#### ANOTHER ENGLISH SCHEME TO DEFEAT REGISTRATION

As we go to press we learn through the *British Journal of Nursing* of February 11 of another organization that has sprung up to defeat registration in Great Britain. We are able to quote only a few lines, but these give the gist of the situation: "Seven wealthy financiers in the City of London [led by Sir Henry Burdett] have petitioned the Board of Trade to incorporate them as 'The Society for Promoting the Higher Education and Training of Nurses,' with powers constituting them the organizers, disciplinarians, and masters of every trained nurse and training-school in the United Kingdom, for the powers for which they ask mean control of the most despotic and unconstitutional character, which, if granted, would result in the reduction of a great body of educated, intelligent, professional women workers to the position of absolute serfs in the body politic."

Surely with so many wealthy and distinguished gentlemen concerning themselves about nursing education on both sides of the Atlantic the nursing profession must either go way, way up or way, way down. We are holding our breath to know which way the ball will bounce.

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#### A CANADIAN NURSES' JOURNAL

THE nurses of Toronto are about to publish a "quarterly," to be called the *Canadian Nurse*. It is time Canadian nurses had a magazine of their own, and we would be the first to welcome such into the field of